

Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) and continued to lead that organization for eighteen years. In that capacity, he lobbied for HBCUs and was instrumental in the 1980 Executive Order, signed by President Carter, directing that federal funding for higher education be prioritized for HBCUs, a principle that has since been expanded to include institutions serving Hispanic and Native American tribal communities. The recipient of many awards and recognitions for his contributions to equality in education, Dr. Myers continued even after his retirement from overseeing NAFEO to be a leader in this national effort, chairing the board of Minority Access, which helps build partnerships between minority-serving institutions and major research universities. He was also a longstanding supporter of foreign language programs and cultural exchanges that expand young Americans' views of our world and help build bridges with students and scholars from other nations.

Dr. Myers will be remembered as a man of vision and of service. His legacy will not be forgotten by the millions of students who were able to access high-quality undergraduate and graduate programs and pursue their dreams because of his tireless efforts. Maryland will long remember Dr. Samuel L. Myers among the pantheon of our great native sons and daughters who dedicated their lives and careers to the improvement of our society, the expansion of opportunities, and the cause of justice and equality for all.

I offer my condolences to his children, Dr. Yvette Myers and Dr. Samuel Myers, Jr., along with their families. Their father now joins their wonderful mother Marion Myers—who was his partner for sixty-four years—and their sister Judge Tama Clark, who passed away last year, in peaceful eternal rest. May his memory continue to bless and inspire so many in Maryland and in our country to pursue service and help build a more perfect union for future generations of Americans.

#### RECOGNIZING GARY T. JOHNSON ON HIS RETIREMENT

#### HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gary T. Johnson on concluding a lengthy and illustrious career as President and CEO of the Chicago History Museum.

After nearly three decades of legal practice in Chicago, Gary made his arrival at the Chicago History Museum in 2005, beginning his tenure as President by transitioning the Chicago Historical Society into the Chicago History Museum as we know it today.

For more than 15 years, Gary spent his time as President focusing on community outreach and strengthening the institution's financial capacity. Along the way, he also headed Museums in the Park, a group of 11 museums on land owned by the Chicago Park District.

During his time as President, Gary brought significant improvements to the museum. He completed a \$27 million campaign and implemented the Museum's 2006 "reinvention," which included renovating 75 percent of its space, announcing a name change, and in-

stalling the highly praised Exelon Crossroads exhibition, the Museum's foundational overview of Chicago history. Additionally, he increased the museum's annual attendance by 89 percent over a 10-year period and extended school visits to 60,000 students annually.

One of Gary's most important and more recent accomplishments was the completion of the landmark five-year, \$50 million This Is Chicago campaign, an effort which involved raising \$11 million for the museum's endowment, acquiring millions of artifacts, increasing education program offerings, and more.

Educated at Yale College, Oxford University, and Harvard Law School, Gary never lost his commitment to supporting the educational aspirations of students in Chicago and beyond. For over ten years, he led the Rhodes Scholarship selection process for the district that includes Illinois, while also dedicating his time to visiting over 300 of Chicago's grade schools—bringing with him artifacts from the Museum's collection to ensure that all Chicagoans had access to the city's greatest treasures.

Madam Speaker, please join me and all of our colleagues in the House of Representatives in recognizing Mr. Gary T. Johnson's years of service to the City of Chicago and congratulating him on his retirement.

#### CONGRATULATING VANCOUVER ITECH PREPARATORY STUDENTS ON THE INCLUSION OF THEIR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY EXHIBIT SHOWCASED BY THE SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY AT THE SMITHSONIAN LEARNING LAB

#### HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jonah Campbell, Clark Hegewald, and Grant Myers of Vancouver iTech Preparatory on having their National History Day project showcased by the Smithsonian National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Learning Lab.

Their project, titled "No Need for Translation: The Apollo-Soyuz Mission", focuses on the bilateral cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in ending the Space Race through the construction of the first space station. The team placed particular emphasis on the unprecedented collaboration between Americans and Soviets at the height of the Cold War.

For over 40 years, National History Day has been a stellar opportunity for students across the country to engage in and expand their knowledge of American history through research-based projects. I hope that participating in National History Day has allowed these students to deepen their appreciation for the great American history that unites us all.

Once again, I want to congratulate Jonah, Clark, and Grant on a job well done.

#### ARTHROGRYPOSIS MULTIPLEX CONGENITA AWARENESS DAY

#### HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Day of Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita (AMC) on Wednesday, June 30, 2021. This condition is present in 1 in 3,000 babies a year, which causes many joints of the body to be stiff and crooked at birth. There are over 400 different types of AMC, which is an umbrella diagnosis that derives from many syndromes. This condition is not curable, but it is treatable. A newborn with AMC lacks the range of motion in one of more joints, but with early intervention, therapies can help children achieve their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development goals. New York State has one of the most active AMC awareness organizations with grassroots efforts located in my district, the borough of Staten Island, NY. My constituent, Valerie Pepe, was born with AMC on June 11, 1967. Valerie now hosts the AMC Music Festival which helps raise money and awareness for those affected by AMC. Thank you for allowing me to recognize her efforts and to bring awareness to the families affected by AMC. As a member of the Rare Disease Caucus, it is my hope that Congress will continue to encourage research and medical innovation to treat AMC.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 161.

#### IN HONOR OF ROY LESLIE FOR 50 YEARS AT SHONEY'S OF KNOX- VILLE, INC.

#### HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Roy "Slick" Leslie, who has had an admirable career at Shoney's of Knoxville, Inc. for 50 years.

When Roy was in high school, he started working at The Lamp Post Restaurant washing dishes, sweeping the parking lot, and cooking, all while helping on the family farm. In 1970, he married his wife, Donna, and together they had four children and 11 grandchildren.

In 1971, Roy started working for Shoney's of Knoxville, Inc. as a bus boy. He worked his way up through the ranks to become Manager, Area Supervisor and then Vice President & Chief Operating Officer. In 2016, he was promoted to President & Chief Executive Officer.

In addition to employing thousands of Tennesseans throughout his career, Roy approved many financial gifts from Shoney's of Knoxville, Inc. focusing on children's charities, healthy living, and strong families.

Roy has the respect of everyone who passes through Shoney's. People in the community admire him for his leadership, kindness, and generosity. I'm pleased to commend him on a successful career full of service and leadership.

## ENACTING CLIMATE INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE AMERICAN JOBS PLAN

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the importance of including climate change focused provisions in any forthcoming infrastructure package.

My district of Sacramento, one of the most flood-prone cities in the nation, relies on modernized flood control infrastructure to protect against the threat of inundations intensified by climate change. Just last year, my home state of California experienced the wildfire season on record and this year, we are bracing for what will be one of the worst droughts in recent decades. All of these are testaments that the climate crisis is here . . . and we have no time for half measures.

As we make the most consequential generational investments on our nation's crumbling infrastructure, Congress must prioritize bold investments in resilience, clean energy, jobs, and environmental justice while lowering our carbon footprint to avert the worst impacts of the climate crisis. The President's American Jobs Plan does just that.

As a leader in clean transportation and strong vehicle emission standards, I am thrilled to see that the American Jobs Plan will spark the electric vehicle revolution. The AJP would build a network of five hundred thousand EV chargers, replace fifty thousand diesel transit vehicles with cleaner vehicles, create a million jobs in the auto industry, and help consumers purchase the vehicles of tomorrow. These infrastructure improvements are critical to lower transportation emissions, the largest source of carbon pollution in the United States, and to decrease tailpipe pollution which disproportionately impacts communities of color.

Further, the American Jobs Plan will help us meet this moment with a visionary agenda that elevates every community—creating at least 2.7 million jobs in the new green economy and investing 40 percent of infrastructure funds in disadvantaged communities.

It is time for Congress to follow the President's leadership and pass an infrastructure package that will help us build a cleaner economy that values workers, communities of color, and all Americans who need environmental, climate, and economic justice. In 2021, we cannot address infrastructure without addressing climate change.

## IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT HILLER

### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the service of Robert Hiller, also known as "Racecar Bob", on his efforts to raise money for the Sedalia, Missouri Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program.

Bob has been serving his community and the region for over three decades, working with law enforcement agencies across seven different states. He has done this with the help of his iconic racecar—he offers rides and appears in the program's annual car show in order to raise money as well as spread awareness. Next year will be Bob's 31st appearance in the car show—the same number as his racecar.

The Sedalia D.A.R.E. Officers, through Bob's efforts, have been able to serve around 20,000 students without having to rely on public tax money, and they will be able to do so for another seven years without needing future funding. Additionally, the program has been able to establish two \$500 scholarships for local high school students.

Bob has had an incredible impact in educating young people about the dangers of substance abuse and making sure they stay safe and healthy. We are incredibly grateful for his service.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, I inadvertently missed Roll Call vote number 161 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3325. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 161.

## CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. GEORGE BERCI

### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the tremendous contributions of Dr. George Berci, a beloved American and resident of California's 33rd Congressional District. With decades of work as an inventor, engineer, professor and author, Dr. Berci's innovative genius and generous spirit has impacted not only the world of medicine but also laid the foundation for future advancement in surgical technologies.

Born in Hungary in 1921, Dr. Berci's family immigrated to Vienna where he studied the violin. They returned to Hungary in the late 1930's when the rise of Nazi Germany forced thousands of Jewish people to emigrate from

Austria. He re-learned Hungarian, graduated from high school, and studied mechanical engineering for three years.

In 1942, Dr. Berci was conscripted into a forced labor camp in his native Hungary. Near the end of the war, George escaped a Nazi march toward Auschwitz and returned behind German lines to Budapest to find his mother. He joined the underground where he used his German language skills to save many still in the ghetto.

In war ravaged, communist-controlled Hungary, Dr. Berci attended Medical School and completed his surgical residency. During this time, he was arrested for confronting the Communist Party, wrote his first research papers, and escaped during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution to Melbourne, Australia. Following his escape, he was awarded a Rockefeller Fellowship in surgery in Vienna, Austria. After working many years in a laboratory, Dr. Berci became an Associate Professor of Surgery in the Department of Surgery at the University of Melbourne.

Dr. Berci performed a one-year fellowship at the University of Seattle and in 1970, accepted the position of Director of Surgical Endoscopy and Surgical Research at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital and later Cedars-Sinai Medical Center under the chairmanship and mentorship of the great Leon Morgenstern. He was later named Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of California, Los Angeles and the University of Southern California.

In his 70-year career, Dr. Berci changed the face of surgery and anesthesiology by pioneering many endoscopic and laparoscopic techniques that provide the basis for virtually all minimally invasive surgeries performed today. George's many major contributions to the science and medical communities include his notable leadership as a part of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons' laparoscopic safety and efficiency training programs. Through this program he developed the first miniature endoscopic video camera, creating a video intubation scope and invented the VITOM surgical video microscope. George also developed other endoscopic instruments and procedures used in urology, gynecology, general, and thoracic surgery, operative laryngology, office laryngology, and pediatric surgery—where his miniature endoscopes allowed endoscopic surgery in children.

Dr. Berci has been widely recognized for his work, having been awarded 21 major prestigious awards, including: the Glissan Prize (Australia) and the American College of Jacobson Innovation Award. In addition, Karl Storz Endoscopy endowed a Chair in Surgery position in his honor, the University of Hungary awarded him an honorary PhD, and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center presented him with their 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award.

As a prolific speaker, writer, and researcher, Dr. Berci has delivered hundreds of lectures, published 12 books and 238 publications in peer reviewed journals worldwide. His revolutionization of the field of minimally invasive surgery, and his impact as a mentor to a generation of surgeons, has made a lasting mark on the entire medical community.

At 100 years of age, Dr. George Berci continues to serve the medical community at Cedar-Sinai's Hospital in Los Angeles, teaching residents at the Women's Guild Simulation